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ing tail and its arch upon your back; and they blessed you with the gift of their fancy in that name, of all your names, which shall cling to you while the world endures. May you through the ages to come, unharmed and unpersecuted, bask happily and peacefully in the shadow of your pretty tail.

CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL, Philadelphia. B. W. MITCHELL.

REVIEW

Problems in Periclean Buildings. By G. W. Elderkin. Princeton: Princeton University Press (1912). Pp. 58. Price, \$1.75 net.

This short monograph, beautifully printed and attractively bound in blue cloth, with twelve excellent full-page illustrations, is the second to appear of the Princeton Monographs in Art and Archaeology. It does not deal with problems in all Periclean buildings, but offers an explanation of certain irregularities in the Propylaea and the Erechtheum, four fifths of the study being given to the Erechtheum. In Chapter I we have an instructive lesson in architectural aesthetics, and learn that the simultaneous visibility of doors and windows from the normal line of approach is a hitherto unobserved feature of Periclean building, illustrated in the Propylaea and the Erechtheum. The irregular position of the door and the windows of the north-west wing, or Pinakothke, of the Propylaea is explained by the theory that they were placed asymmetrically in order that they might be simultaneously visible between the columns in front of them to the visitor climbing a zig-zag road up to the Propylaea. This road Dr. Elderkin reconstructs with great ingenuity from the orientation of the Monument to Agrippa, the Nike bastion, and a point between the Monument and the bastion, whence the door and the windows of the Pinakothke would be visible at the same time. From this point the road was just the width of the middle passage through the Propylaea, and led straight east through that passage-way (compare Fig. 4). There is no certain proof for or against such a road, but it renders rather useless the stairs below the western six Doric columns where people would naturally ascend and pass through all five door-ways, and not merely through the central door-way where Dr. Elderkin's road goes. The peculiar orientation of the monument of Agrippa may have been due to the foundations just south-west of the Pinakothke, extending to the lone-standing anta there. As Dr. Elderkin's plan shows, this line and that of the monument to Agrippa are parallel. It is difficult to think that the crowds of ancient Athenians who went up to the Acropolis could not use the whole space, and were obliged to walk a narrow path. However, if we must have such a zig-zag path, I prefer Dr. Elderkin's to Judeich's. The chapter concludes with the theory that the Propy-

laea, as originally planned, was absolutely symmetrical, and that the south-west wing was to have a room with a door and two windows just as in the Pinakothke. But why should the two halves of a Greek building be exactly alike any more than the two halves of a sculptured pediment or the two ends of a temple (compare the so-called Theseum)? Certainly the number of columns in the north-east and south-east rooms should be eight and not nine, as Wood has shown (cf. *Journal of Hellenic Studies* 18 [1908], 330; also the plan in Fowler and Wheeler, *Greek Archaeology*, 156).

In Chapter II a new and very suggestive interpretation of the Caryatid Porch of the Erechtheum is given, that the Caryatids may represent the Arrephoroi, an interpretation confirmed by an archaic amphora in Boston (Fig. 5), which represents the four Arrephoroi carrying long chests on their heads. These and the discs on them are compared with the architrave and its discs above the Caryatids. This very fascinating and acceptable hypothesis relates the Caryatids in thought to the cult of the temple, but I doubt whether the Pre-Persian joint temple, if such ever existed, also had Caryatids in place of columns (page 17). In that case, some fragment would have survived in the Persian debris.

Chapter III gives a radically new interior arrangement of the Erechtheum. Scholars have believed that there were two levels in the Erechtheum, the eastern room and portico being nine feet above the western rooms and north porch; but Dr. Elderkin has a firm conviction that there was a common lower level, such as there was in Christian times, but that a staircase descended from the eastern porch to the lower level. This will startle students of Greek architecture, but it is difficult to bring any definite and certain evidence against the theory; and recent excavations in Asia Minor have shown that in Ionic temples a staircase often does descend from the portico or eastern room of a temple to the cella; so at Didyma, where we have a flight of about twenty steps, and (not cited by Dr. Elderkin) at Sardes, where the east porch is about five feet above the floor of the cella and where the traces of steps are certain (cf. *American Journal of Archaeology* 16 [1912], 468). In his new plan (page 27) for the Erechtheum Dr. Elderkin divides the western cella into a north and south chamber, with a connection between the south one and the eastern cella. The south chamber is called the *Stomiaion*, a word which does not occur in Greek but is coined by Dr. Elderkin, and the north chamber is labelled the *Prostomiaion*. Where former scholars have placed a wall, pilasters are given. In the *Stomiaion* were the well and the trident-mark mentioned by Pausanias. The marks in the rock under the opening in the floor of the North Porch, the altar which stood there, the recently discovered aperture in the roof are interpreted

ted as having nothing to do with Poseidon's trident-marks, but as a memorial of the thunder-bolt which Zeus hurled at Erechtheus. The argument, here mostly literary, is very convincing and explains the existence of the Altar of Zeus. The hole in the floor close to the wall east of the main door in the north porch is explained as a sort of speaking tube for subterranean utterances or priestly response. This again is an advanced idea, but very likely right, for at Corinth there is a similar contrivance for emitting sound from beneath the floor of the temple. The main support of his theories Dr. Elderkin finds in Pausanias, and he offers the most rational explanation of Pausanias ever presented, provided specialists in Greek architecture will admit the possibility of his plan. In any case, Chapter III is of immense philological interest to the student of Pausanias, of Greek cults, and of Greek literature, for several literary passages and important Greek words are here discussed.

The last chapter deals with the original plan of the Erechtheum. The temple was to have been a symmetrical structure consisting of a large central chamber with the Caryatid porch in the middle of the south side, and the north porch in the middle of the north side, and flanked on east and west by a single room, each with a door and two windows opening on to a porch of six Ionic columns. This plan (page 57) in some respects is better than Dörpfeld's original plan. A modern architect often draws many plans before the final one is put into use, and perhaps the architect of the Erechtheum had thought of several plans before he compromised on the peculiar scheme actually executed.

In a word, Dr. Elderkin's book, written in an unusually good English style, is extremely suggestive and stimulating, even if one believes that he has too strong a faith in exact Greek symmetry and aesthetics. It will have to be carefully considered by the specialists in Greek architecture. He has opened up a new point of view, and raised questions which the conservatives will find difficulty in answering. He has given an illuminating interpretation of the passages in Pausanias which concern the Erechtheum. He has brought out several new principles in Athenian architecture. He has decidedly proved that much in our present views is incorrect. It now devolves on the architects to produce some definite arguments of architectural fact against Dr. Elderkin's progressive theories and in favor of the old views, or to acknowledge that there is no decisive evidence. We await with keen interest the detailed books on the Erechtheum and the Propylaea which are being prepared by the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY. DAVID M. ROBINSON.

CORRESPONDENCE

A friend of mine sent me yesterday a copy of *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* dated November 23, 1912, and I am so greatly pleased with the article on methods of language teaching—more particularly the so-called Direct Method—that I am sure I must have missed a great deal in not getting the subsequent issues of your paper.

I have been teaching foreign languages—classical and modern—in New York City since 1872 and I thoroughly agree with Professors Sheldon, Grandgent, and Thomas in their estimate of the Direct Method. Every new method proposed has been given by me a fair trial, and I have found them all wanting.

To be sure, I learned a little from all of them, but my long experience has taught me that the only method worth the *time*, the *trouble*, and the *money* is a thorough systematic study of grammar and composition, leading eventually to an appreciative reading of the literature of the language in question. This is more emphatically the case with the classical languages and German than with English and French.

I am sorry Professor Thomas did not repeat the following remark he made in a paper read at the first meeting of the Schoolmasters' Club in 1886:

Anyone who professes to be able to do it (viz., teach a person to speak a foreign language by class instruction given at stated intervals), may be safely set down as a quack.

EDWARD ALTHAUS.

MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL, New York City, March 30, 1913.

ARTICLES IN NON-CLASSICAL PERIODICALS¹

The Athenaeum—Feb. 22, (Wilamowitz-Moellendorf, Sappho and Simonides: H. Dittmar, Aischines von Sphettos); March 1, (G. W. and L. S. Botsford, A Source-Book of Ancient History: L. Whibley, The Year's Work in Classical Studies, 1912); March 8, (R. Hackforth, Authorship of the Platonic Epistles): Excavations at Pisidian Antioch in 1912, W. M. Ramsay; March 15, (R. Delbrück, Antike Porträts); March 22, (J. Thomopoulos, Pelasgika: T. R. Mills, Thucydides' Histories, Book ii: S. Reinach, Répertoire de reliefs grecs et romains, tome iii); March 29, (G. W. Elderkin, Problems in Periclean Buildings); Notes, from Rome, Lanciani.
Current Opinion—April, The Winged Victory, A Story.
Hearst's Magazine—April, The Closed Gates of a Lost Paradise, Guglielmo Ferrero.
The Nation (New York)—April 3, (R. Bagot, The Italians of To-day—page 339: F. M. Cornford, From Religion to Philosophy, a book dealing with early Greek thought—page 340); April 10, (A. M. Harmon's translation of Lucian, Volume 1—page 367); April 17, (John Williams White, The Verse of Greek Comedy); April 24, Old Greece in the New, an article based on George Demetrios's When I was a Boy in Greece—see *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* 6.183: Beaumont and Fletcher I, Paul E. More (pages 411-412 deal with the Hippolytus of Euripides).
The School Review—April, F. F. Abbott, The Common People of Ancient Rome (W. Dennison).
The Spectator—Feb. 22, Apollo and Marsyas; March 8, (G. Murray, Four Stages of Greek Religion); March 15, (P. F. Martin, Greece of the Twentieth Century); Quem Jupiter vult perdere; March 22, Anthologia Palatina ix, 49: Three Important Classical Books (Maunde-Thompson, Introduction to Greek and Latin Palaeography: H. Stuart Jones, Companion to Roman Studies: T. C. Stobart, The Grandeur that was Rome).

¹ For the significance of the forms adopted in making the entries see *THE CLASSICAL WEEKLY* 6.39. Valuable assistance has again been rendered by Professor H. H. Yeames, Mr. Irving Demarest, and Mr. W. S. Messer.